

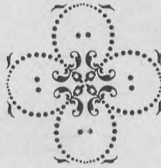
1824-1924

CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

*of*

ST. STEPHEN'S CHURCH

NEW HARTFORD, N.Y.



SEPTEMBER 10, 1924



*St. Stephen's  
Church and  
Parish House*



*Interior  
of Church*



*Interior of  
Parish House*

# A Brief History of St. Stephen's Protestant Episcopal Church of New Hartford, N.Y.

*By* MANNING BENNETT, *Rector*

IN the early part of June, 1824, the Rev. Amos Cotton Treadway arrived in New Hartford for a visit to his sister, Mrs. Susan Hamlin. Born and bred in Connecticut, he was living at the time in Lynchburg, Va. Finding a number of church people, he held services in various places but particularly in a school house on the Seneca road, where resided the families of John Savage and Colling Lock. So much interest was manifested that Mr. Treadway changed his plans and decided to minister to the scattered church folk of the locality.

It is well, perhaps, to note that at that time there were but three Episcopal Churches in Oneida County: St. Paul's, Paris Hill, organized in 1797; Trinity, Utica, organized in 1798, and St. Paul's, Holland Patent, organized in 1821.

On the first Sunday of July, 1824, the little congregation met in the Masonic Hall, where it is believed the full services of Morning and Evening Prayer were said for the first time. Ere long the question of a permanent organization was discussed. The chief difficulty was a sufficient number of male persons to act as wardens and vestrymen. In a few weeks the difficulties were overcome, an organization being perfected with the title: The Rector, Church Wardens and Vestrymen of St. Stephen's Church, New Hartford.

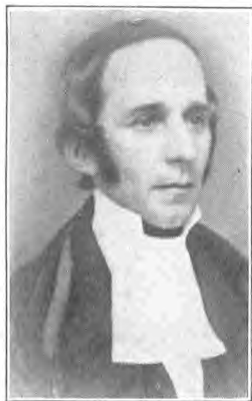
The meeting at which this formal act was accomplished was held on the first day of September, 1824, the Rev. Henry Anthon, then rector of Trinity Church, Utica, presiding, with Mr. Eli Savage as secretary. John Savage and Colling Lock were elected wardens. Jedediah Sanger, Peter Hull, Nathan Marsh, Dr. Nathaniel Sherrill, Moses Dickinson, Stephen Duen, Isaac Stratton, Zedekiah Sanger, Vestrymen.

After a time we find the old plain glass windows were replaced by those now in use, the large window in the front of the church being a gift of sixty former members of the parish.

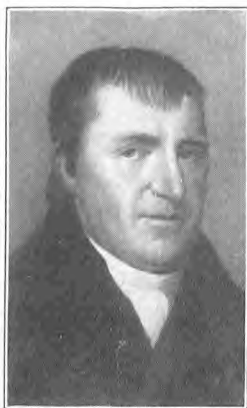
In 1868 the original vestibule and the organ gallery were re-



MANNING BENNETT



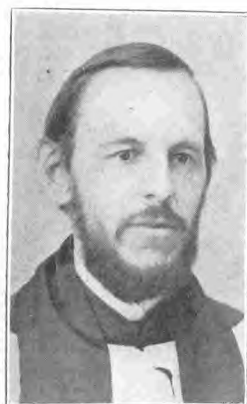
HENRY LEMUEL STORRS  
1838-1841



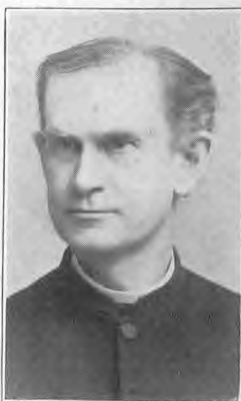
JEDEDIAH SANGER  
who was instrumental in  
founding St. Stephen's  
and was a staunch friend  
in its early history



W. S. HAYWARD  
1867-1868



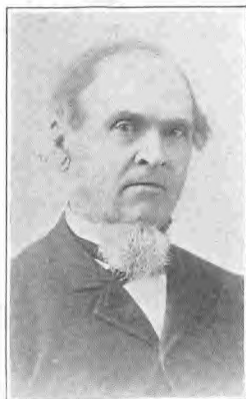
CHARLES W. HAYES  
1857-1863



DAVID H. LOVEJOY  
1870-1875



CHARLES GILLIATT  
1865-1867



MORGAN BUTLER  
A staunch supporter of  
St. Stephen's  
during his lifetime



J. S. LEMON  
1882-1886

moved, the present chancel was built and an organ chamber erected. A furnace and new pews were purchased and the interior was put in good condition. These changes were made under the direction of Mrs. D. V. W. Golden, who furnished the vestry room at her own expense.

About 1886 the organ was badly in need of repairs but no funds available. The money required for this purpose was raised through the efforts of Miss Elizabeth Sanger MacFarland from friends of the parish, and by an entertainment given by the young ladies of the choir. These incidents serve to remind us of the hearty co-operation given the church at that time, and which has existed from the founding of the parish until the present.

From an examination of the records during the first fifty years we find there had been about 400 baptisms, 170 marriages and about 310 burials.

Mrs. Martha Dakin Foster played the organ for about forty years as a voluntary offering.

It would seem that the growth of the Church had been affected by the migratory character of the people.

In 1883 the present rectory became the property of the church, having been left to the parish by Mrs. Eggleston, a long faithful member.

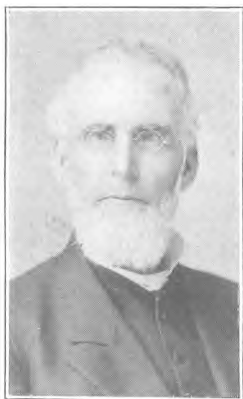
In 1900 a beautiful lectern of carved oak and an altar cross were presented in memory of Mrs. Malinda Butterfield; the interior of the church was newly decorated and electric lights installed, and a legacy of \$3000.00, left by Mrs. Helen Thompson, became available.

In September, 1901, the Parish suffered great loss by the death of Mrs. Morgan Butler. On the settlement of her estate \$3,000.00 which had been willed by Mr. Butler to the parish was received.

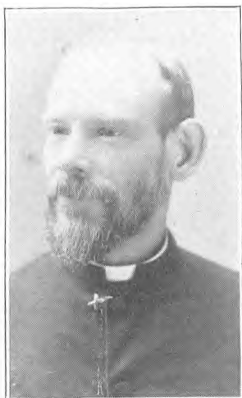
At the first meeting of the officials of the parish plans were made for a church and a committee appointed to secure funds for the same.

Judge Sanger, who at that time was the most influential man in town, purchased the lot on which the church stands for \$150.00 and contributed over \$2,000.00 to the building fund. The corner stone was laid on Monday, July 11, 1825. It is recorded that in the box placed in the stone was a deed for 130 acres of land in Bridgewater, a gift of Judge Sanger, toward a permanent fund for the support of the rector. After more than a year, the building was completed. Referring to this fact, the first rector wrote:

"Through mingled emotions of hope and despondency, against the popular consent of powerful and sectarian prejudice, armed strongly with every weapon of unconcealed intolerance, our little



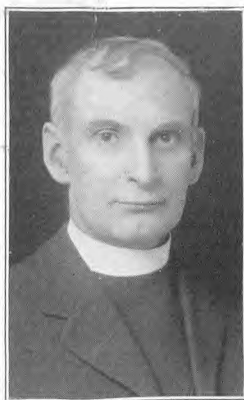
JEDEDIAH WINSLOW  
1875-1880



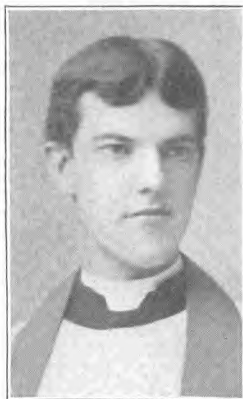
T. L. BANNISTER  
1890-1898



FREDERICK S. EASTMAN  
1908-1914



W. GORDON BENTLEY  
1898-1908



BENJAMIN S. SANDERSON  
1886-1890



HENRY S. SMART  
1914-1919



band, like an army clad with strength, have pushed their pious purpose till victory has crowned the mighty effort."

On Monday, September 4, 1826, the Church was consecrated by The Rt. Rev. John Henry Hobart, Bishop of New York.

In 1829 the Rev. Mr. Treadway tendered his resignation, leaving behind him a record of faithfulness, energy and devoted service. St. Stephen's owes very much to its first rector.

On June 6, 1829, the Hon. Jedediah Sanger died, leaving an annuity of \$250.00 for the support of the rector.

In 1830 an organ was purchased for the church, for the sum of \$535.00. At about the same time some of the young men procured blinds for the windows, which were filled with panes of small common glass and the first bell was purchased at a cost of \$200.00.

In 1835 a solid silver community service, consisting of flagon, paten and two chalices, was procured through the efforts of the women of the parish.

In about 1849 the Rev. Messrs. Punderson and Moody established in New Hartford a boys' school called Sanger Hall. These two clergymen took a great interest in the parish, frequently taking the services and helping in many ways.

In 1905, Mr. J. V. H. Scovill introduced a resolution, which was adopted by the Vestry, that a committee be appointed to take immediate measures to erect a parish house, \$1,000.00 having been left by Mr. Morgan Butler for that purpose. After a number of years the present building was erected.

In 1923 Bishop Fiske had a conference with the vestry to decide in regard to future plans for the church. It was decided at that time that the parish could not find a better location and steps were therefore immediately taken to restore St. Stephen's. In the summer of 1923 the century-old building was put in repair from foundation to tower. The heavy stone steps were reset and ornamental railings erected. The church was re-wired and a new lighting system installed. The walls were re-decorated and a new heating system put in place.

Mr. William Ainsworth, in memory of his parents, presented to the church a beautiful brass pulpit, which was used for the first time on the festival of Christmas.

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Things old have a special attraction. If our old Church could speak, what stories it could tell! Here officiated Bishops Hobart, Onderdonk, DeLancey, Coxe, Huntington, Olmstead and Fiske. How humble it would make us feel if it could recount all the deeds of generosity and self-sacrifice it has witnessed! May the Holy Spirit give us courage to do our work as well.

## Succession of Rectors in St. Stephen's

- 1 AMOS COTTON TREADWAY...Oct. 5, 1824 - April 1829
- 2 PARKER ADAMS.....Aug. 6, 1829 - Sept. 6, 1834
- 3 CHARLES WILLIAM BRADLEY...Nov. 29, 1835 - Mar. 1, 1837
- 4 SAMUEL DAVIS.....May 14, 1837 - Apr. 16, 1838
- 5 HENRY STORRS.....May 11, 1838 - June 7, 1841
- 6 HOBART WILLIAMS.....Aug. 1, 1841 - Nov. 21, 1843
- 7 WILLIAM EIGENBRODT.....Feb. 1844 - Nov. 11, 1844
- 8 STEPHEN BATTIN.....Dec. 17, 1844 - Nov. 1848
- 9 CHARLES GARDINER.....Dec. 18, 1848 - June 14, 1849
- 10 THOMAS BENEDICT.....Oct. 21, 1849 - Nov. 3, 1851
- 11 WILLIAM FISKE.....Jan. 10, 1852 - Feb. 1, 1854
- 12 WILLIAM MATSON.....Feb. 26, 1854 - June 6, 1857
- 13 CHARLES HAYES.....July 17, 1857 - Aug. 30, 1863
- 14 MOSES KERN.....Nov. 25, 1863 - Nov. 26, 1864
- 15 CHARLES GILLIAT.....May 20, 1865 - June 1, 1867
- 16 WILLIAM HAYWARD.....Sept. 29, 1867 - Aug. 3, 1868
- 17 D'ESTAING JENNINGS.....Sept. 27, 1868 - Dec. 7, 1869
- 18 DAVID LOVEJOY.....Feb. 1, 1870 - Apr. 30, 1875
- 19 JEDEDIAH WINSLOW.....July 1, 1875 - July 3, 1880
- 20 J. S. LEMON.....May 1, 1882 - May 1, 1886
- 21 BENJAMIN SANDERSON.....Oct. 24, 1886 - May 1, 1890
- 22 T. L. BANISTER.....Oct. 1, 1890 - July 1, 1898
- 23 W. GORDON BENTLEY.....Nov. 1, 1898 - May 31, 1908
- 24 FREDERICK S. EASTMAN.....Oct. 28, 1908 - Mar. 27, 1914
- 25 HENRY S. SMART.....Sept. 15, 1914 - Mar. 1, 1919
- 26 MANNING BENNETT.....March 1, 1919 -